

State of California  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
July 14, 2010

ITEM: 5

SUBJECT: Update of Waste Discharge Requirements: City of Escondido, Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility (Master Reclamation Permit with Waste Discharge Requirements for the production and purveyance of recycled water) (Tentative Order No. R9-2010-0032) (*Robert Pierce*).

PURPOSE: To adopt tentative Order No. R9-2010-0032 superseding Order No. 93-70 for wastewater treatment and recycled water use for the City of Escondido Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility (HARRF).

PUBLIC NOTICE: Pursuant to California Water Code section 13167.5, on May 4, 2010 the San Diego Water Board complied with public comment period requirements by posting a notice and the tentative Order on the official internet site maintained by the San Diego Water Board.

DISCUSSION: The HARRF has 18 million gallons per day (mgd) capacity for secondary treatment of residential, commercial, and industrial wastewater generated within the City of Escondido, and the community of Rancho Bernardo within the City of San Diego. The HARRF has a tertiary treatment capacity of 9 mgd. Treated effluent, which is not recycled, is discharged to the ocean pursuant to a NPDES Permit.

The HARRF was upgraded to increase recycled water production to the fullest extent of the tertiary treatment capacity. Significant recycled water users are the San Diego Gas and Electric Palomar Energy Center, Rincon Del Diablo Water District, Kit Carson Park, Reidy Creek Golf Course, and Vineyard Golf Course. The City of Escondido filed a Report of Waste Discharge to modify Order No. 93-70 and Addendum No. 1 thereto. The upgraded HARRF treatment facilities improve efficiency and reliability in meeting public health standards for tertiary treated recycled water.

Tentative Order No. R9-2010-0032 will revise the discharge specifications and other requirements prescribed in the current waste discharge requirements to address concerns of the City of Escondido over nitrate, iron, and manganese specifications, and bring the HARRF up to date with current plans and policies, and public health guidelines. Additional information is in the information sheet in Attachment D of the tentative Order.

Comments on the Tentative Order (Supporting Document 2) were received from the City of Escondido. Responses to comments are included in Supporting Document 3. Two errata sheets were prepared and included in the June 9, 2010 Board Meeting Agenda Package. The Tentative Order (Supporting Document 1) incorporates the changes described in the two Errata Sheets which are not included in this Agenda Package.

KEY ISSUES: None.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Tentative Order No. R9-2010-0032 and Attachments
  - A. Site Map
  - B. Flow Schematic
  - C. Monitoring and Reporting Program
  - D. Information Sheet
  - E. Rules and Regulations for Recycled Water Use
2. Comment Letter from City of Escondido
3. Responses to Comments

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES:

The discharge specifications for iron and manganese in the tentative Order were increased based on a groundwater assimilative capacity analysis in the Report of Waste Discharge. The discharge specifications of 0.5 milligrams per liter (mg/L) iron and 0.2 mg/L manganese were increased from 0.3 mg/L and 0.05 mg/L respectively. The tentative Order includes groundwater monitoring to verify assumptions of the analysis. The waste discharge and water reclamation requirements were combined into a master reclamation permit in the tentative Order. The water reclamation requirements were updated to require agronomic irrigation to ensure compliance with nitrate objectives, certification of Rules and Regulations, and Plans and Specifications reports for recycled water use areas.

COMPLIANCE  
RECORD:

The City of Escondido has repeatedly violated discharge specifications for daily maximum and annual average manganese concentrations in effluent.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adoption of tentative Order No. R9-2010-0032